

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 ACDA-10 DHA-02 EB-08

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /113 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4782

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

UNCLAS KIGALI 0455

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, BY, CG, RH

SUBJECT: BURUNDI PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

1. DURING TRANSIT KIGALI EN ROUTE DAKAR FRANCOPHONE HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT APRIL 18, BURUNDI PRIME MINISTER EDOUARD NZAMBIMANA DISCUSSED SHABA INCURSION, OWEN MISSION, DAKAR SUMMIT, AND BURUNDI'S INTERNAL SITUATION AT AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. SHABA: PRIME MINISTER SAID BURUNDI'S POSITION AS STATED TO ZAIROIS EMISSARIES REMAINS UNCHANGED: "WE FIRMLY SUPPORT ZAIRE BECAUSE WE ARE IN THE SAME REGION... WE HAVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS WHICH WE PALN TO RESPECT", ALL THE SAME, HE SAID, BURUNDI HOPES CONFLICT BETWEEN ZAIRE AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, "NOTABLY ANGOLA", CAN BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY SO THAT REGION DOES NOT BECOME EXPLOSIVE. "WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO AVOID INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THIS CONFLICT, HE CONCLUDED.

3. OWENS MISSION: BURUNDI HOPES FOR PACIFIC SOLUTION TO RHODESIAN QUESTION, AND "IF THE BRITISH SOLUTION CAN
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BRING THE BLACKS TO POWER PEACEFULLY, WE WILL SUPPORT IT." HOWEVER, NZAMBIMANA ALSO SAID THAT IF NO SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND, BURUNDI WILL SUPPORT RIGHT OF ZIMBABWE'S PEOPLE TO RESORT TO ARMS.

4. DAKAR CONFERENCE: NZAMBIMANA EXPRESSED HOPE STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO APPLY "EXCELLENT" RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN BANGUI

AND PARIS, PARTICULARLY THOSE CONCERNING COOPERATION BETWEEN
FRANCOPHONE STATES.

5. BURUNDI: NZAMBIMANA TOLD REPORTS "ATMOSPHERE OF WORK
AND PEACE" REIGNS IN BURUNDI. SINCE NOV COUP, GOAL OF
GOVT HAS BEEN TO RESTORE NATION'S SELF CONFIDENCE AND THEN
TO BEGIN DEVELOPMENT WORK. GOVT, HE SAID, WORKING TO
RECTIFY SITUATION WHICH WAS NOT "ALTOGETHER GOOD" BEFOREHAND.
HE CLAIMED MANY THINGS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED BUT MUCH REMAINS
TO BE DONE TO RESTORE SELF-CONFIDENCE AMONG BURUNDIANS AND
ALSO TO STIMULATE ECONOMY "WHICH HAS BECOME STAGNANT".CRIGLER

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Message Attributes

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